



Office of U.S. Rep. George Nethercutt

Washington's 5th District

223 Cannon House Office Building

Washington, DC 20515

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 23, 2002

Contact: April Gentry

(202) 225-2006

EPA Administrator Christie Whitman accepts Nethercutt invitation to Spokane

EPA chief will discuss Coeur d'Alene Basin cleanup with delegation

WASHINGTON – U.S. Rep. George Nethercutt (R-Wash.) announced today that the head of the Environmental Protection Agency has accepted his invitation to participate in a roundtable discussion in Spokane in August with local leaders regarding the Coeur d'Alene Basin cleanup.

"I'm glad Administrator Whitman will be able to hear first-hand the concerns of elected officials and local leaders from Washington state about the Coeur d'Alene Basin clean-up effort," Nethercutt said. "Cleanup of the Basin is a regional concern, and I wanted to make sure that the voices of Washingtonians would be heard on this issue, too," he continued, noting that Whitman will be hosted by the Idaho congressional delegation in a tour of the Basin Aug. 13.

Nethercutt has invited Sens. Patty Murray and Maria Cantwell, the Spokane County Commissioners, Mayor John Powers, Mary Ann McCurdy from Gov. Locke's office, Tony Grover with the Department of Ecology, Mike Peterson, executive director of the Lands Council, and representatives from the Greater Spokane and Spokane Valley Chambers of Commerce to participate in the roundtable.

The meeting will take place on Aug. 12 from 5-6 p.m. at the Spokane Regional Chamber of Commerce, 1020 W. Riverside. The meeting will be closed to press and the public, but a press availability will follow the meeting.

###